Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives recognize the significance of the institution of marriage as a vital foundation of American society and wholeheartedly believe that a successful union can be achieved only through a loving relationship of mutual honor, respect, and trust; and

Whereas, a period of five wondrous decades has passed since Ivan Eugene Clarkson lovingly took the hand of his beautiful bride, Gail Anita Mansfield, during a solemn ceremony on March 24, 1956, at the First Presbyterian Church in La Plata; and

Whereas, in the years since that heavenly day, Ivan and Gail Clarkson have had the pleasure of raising six children, Cathy Murphy, Karen Lovingier, Kenneth Clarkson, Douglas Clarkson, Janice McHenry, and Linda Jepson, and the privilege of spoiling seventeen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; and

Whereas, Ivan Clarkson has compiled an impressive record of achievement that includes being a farmer, a heavy equipment owner-operator, a foster parent, an active proponent for soil conservation techniques, a 4-H Leader, and a member of the Area Economic Development Committee, the Adair County Extension Council, and the Christian Food Ministry; and

Whereas, a devoted wife, loving mother, and exemplary homemaker, Gail Clarkson further distinguished herself by being an Oats bus and school bus driver, a foster parent, a 4-H Leader, and Food Director of Christian Food Ministry; and

Whereas, Ivan and Gail Clarkson have enjoyed many hobbies and pastimes over the past half century, a few of which include hunting, reading, traveling, and spending time with their loved ones; and

Whereas, recipients of the Adair County Farm Family of the Year award, Ivan and Gail Clarkson derive a tremendous amount of spiritual fulfillment through their affiliation with La Plata Baptist Church; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson, residents of La Plata, will commemorate the resplendent occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a special celebration on March 26, 2006, at the American Legion Hall in La Plata:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join in extending our most hearty congratulations to Ivan and Gail Clarkson and in wishing them only the best as they continue their journey walking hand-in-hand along life's path; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Eugene Clarkson.

Offered by	
	Representative Robert J. Behnen
	District No. 2

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1292, adopted March 15, 2006.